1 <u>ABSTRACT</u>

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3 The present invention provides a system of extracting a visual feature from a dataset,

4 comprising a storage means for storing said dataset; retrieval means for retrieving said dataset

5 from said storage means; display means for displaying an image of said retrieval dataset;

6 means for defining a block of voxels corresponding to a selected portion of said displayed

7 dataset, said block containing said visual feature therein; means for removing from said block

8 voxels not containing said visual feature, to generate a feature block; means for generating a

9 mask from said feature block; and means for rendering said dataset using said mask. A

10 method of extracting visual features is also provided.

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